

Community Planning Assessment of Goals and Objectives

Community Planning activities undertaken during this program year addressed certain goals and objectives stated in Cambridge's Five-Year Consolidated Plan (July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2005). These established specific goals and objectives are outlined as follows:

- Provide high quality technical assistance to staff members, the City, and residents. Continue to provide support for all departments operations. Federal, State and Local funds. 5-year goals: 60 staff members receiving assistance. Annual goals: 15 staff members receiving assistance
- Provide public with information on planning and zoning. Federal and Local Funds. 5-year goals: 7000 people served. Annual goals: 1400 people served.
- Work with neighborhood groups, residents, property owners, developers and other City departments and state agencies on urban design plans and proposed developments. Federal and Local funds. 5-year goals: 600 meetings with groups. Annual goals: 120 meetings with groups.
- Develop, implement and review urban design improvements and master plans. Federal and Local funds. 5-year goals: 120 projects to be reviewed. Annual goals: 24 projects to be reviewed.
- Staff and assist Planning Board. Federal and Local funds. 5-year goals: 120 meetings assisted. Annual goals: 24 meetings.
- Provide parks, playgrounds and recreation site with design and construction supervision services. Federal and Local funds. 5-year goals: 25 park renovations, 30 projects receiving technical assistance. Annual goals: 5 park renovations and 6 projects to receive technical assistance.
- To increase the quality and availability of planning-related information to staff, other City departments, residents, property owners, developers, state and federal agencies. Federal and Local funds: 5-year goals: 600 GIS maps, 500 presentations, 20 project and program materials, 20 major department initiatives including open space database. Annual goals: 120 GIS maps, 100 presentations. 4 Project and program materials, 4 major department initiatives.

During the 7/1/01 - 6/31/02 CAPER reporting period, the primary activities undertaken from the above list of five-year goals involved providing high quality technical assistance to staff members, the City and residents for all department operations. Providing the public with information on planning and zoning through phone calls, mailings, brochures, website and office visits. Staff and assist the Planning Board. Activities also included

working with neighborhood groups, residents, property owners, developers and other City departments and state agencies on urban design plans and proposed developments and also developing, implementing and reviewing urban design improvements and master plans. Providing parks, playgrounds and recreation sites with design and construction services. Increasing the quality and availability of planning-related information through the Community Planning website.

Citywide Rezoning

Continued working with the Planning Board and City Council on comprehensive Citywide Rezoning to achieve citywide density reductions, permanent citywide project review and new housing districts. Completed detailed rezoning in lower Cambridgeport and Alewife/Route 2 Area.

Eastern Cambridge Planning Study (ECaPS)

Working with Planning Board and City Council completed comprehensive rezoning for eastern portion of Cambridge recommended through ECaPS committee process with proposed changes including housing and mixed-use incentives, FAR (density), transfer of development rights and design guidelines. Prepared and mailed bulletin describing proposed rezoning to all property owners in Eastern Cambridge and conducted series of public information workshops. Zoning adopted by City Council October 2001.

Riverside Planning Study

Completed Riverside Planning Study containing long-range goals and plans for future development in the Riverside neighborhood. Working with consultant team and city staff, met monthly with 20 member committee over 12 month period and conducted a series of public workshops to develop recommendations addressing land use, zoning, urban design, open space, transportation, housing and economic development. Submitted rezoning proposals from the Riverside Planning Committee to the Planning Board, including FAR (density) changes, transfer of development rights and design guidelines.

Open Space/Playground Renovations

The King School Playground project began construction during this time period. The Kennedy School Playground, Paine Park and Reverend Williams Playground park renovations were completed. Completed community processes for Franklin Street Park and Area IV Open Space. The Cambridgeport Park Project continues to be on hold while the Trust for Public Land negotiates its way through relocation and environmental issues. It is anticipated that this issue will be resolved within the near future.

Leveraging the Resources

CDBG budgeted and spent \$696,010 (56%) on the above mentioned FY01 Projects while \$554,855 (44%) from City taxes was also was expedited.